



Jean-Baptiste Dupont plays Widor: Symphony No. 8

aud 97.774

EAN: 4022143977748



Choir & Organ (2021.07.13)

source: https://www.rhinegold.co.uk/choir_organ/...

CHOIR & ORGAN

This recording is clearly a personal passion for Dupont, who was born and studied in Toulouse (and who won the 2009 St Albans Improvisation Competition). Although it was the Tenth Symphony that Widor dedicated to the St Sernin organ, Dupont has chosen to showcase the Eighth Symphony in its final 1929 form. This is not the easiest of symphonies to communicate as a whole, but Dupont deftly demonstrates that he is very much at one with both the piece and instrument. This is the first recording after the recent overhaul of the organ, and the nobility and huge dynamic contrasts of one of Cavaillé-Coll's finest instruments are present in terrific detail on this recording. The Symphony is complemented with Saint-Saëns's *Cypres* (100 years after its composition) and a *Prière* by Guy Ropartz. My only disappointment is that the CD is only 54 minutes long. Other audio options are available as downloads, including Widor's original *Prélude*, omitted in later editions.





Home > Choir and Organ > Widor: Symphony 8



John Barnett

Widor: Symphony 8

3:22, 13th July 2021

Jean-Baptiste Dupont, Cavaillé-Coll organ, St Sernin, Toulouse

Audite 97.774 [54:34]

★★★★★

This recording is clearly a personal passion for Dupont, who was born and studied in Toulouse (and who won the 2009 St Albans Improvisation Competition). Although it was the Tenth Symphony that Widor dedicated to the St Sernin organ, Dupont has chosen to showcase the Eighth Symphony in its final 1929 form. This is not the easiest of symphonies to communicate as a whole, but Dupont deftly demonstrates that he is very much at one with both the piece and instrument. This is the first recording after the recent overhaul of the organ, and the nobility and huge dynamic contrasts of one of Cavaillé-Coll's finest instruments are present in terrific detail on this recording. The Symphony is complemented with Saint-Saëns's *Cyprès* (100 years after its composition) and a *Prière* by Guy Ropartz. My only disappointment is that the CD is only 54 minutes long. Other audio options are available as downloads, including Widor's original *Prélude*, omitted in later editions.

RUPERT GOUGH